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**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Marco FRANCIA

Appln. No. 09/802,932

Confirmation No.: 7225

Filed: March 12, 2001

For: A FERMENTATION VAT



Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: no later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
USSN: 09/802,932

Applicant submits that the reference submitted (Italian Application No. TO97A000749) is mentioned on page 1 of the specification.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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**U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent & Trademark Office**

Atty. Docket No.

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Q63527

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant: Marco FRANCIA

Filing Date:  
March 12, 2001

Group:  
Not yet assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.